GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:312
ANSWERED ON:01.03.2002
PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY OF SUB-STANDARD RICE
ARUN KUMAR;RAMSHETH THAKUR

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Union Government have been drawn to the news-item captioned `16 FCI men suspended` appearing in Times of India, dated 24th January, 2002;

(b) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein;

(c) whether the Union Government have initiated steps against the officials found guilty and have also taken steps to stop recurrence of such incidents in future;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI PRADHAN)

(a): Yes, Sir.

(b),(c)&(d): Upon receipt of complaints regarding disposal of rice procured under relaxed specifications during 1998-99 (URS rice) despatched from Mansa, Talwandibhai, Barnala, Raman, Muktsar and Faridkot depots of the Food Corporation of India (FCI) in Punjab region to Mumbai for disposal through tender sale in the month of September, 2001 an officer of the Ministry was deputed to Mumbai to inspect the said stocks. Another squad was also deputed by the FCI, for follow-up action.As per the reports of these two squads, it was established that URS rice despatched from Punjab to Mumbai region was Beyond Rejection Limit (BRL).On receipt of the reports, the FCI has placed 16 Category-II and III officials (6 Assistant Managers and 10 Technical Assistants) under suspension and shifted their Head Quarter out of Punjab region.

(e): Does not arise.